

Remarks

Claims 1-10 and 12-38 remain pending with claims 1, 16, 26, and 34 being independent.

Attorney for Applicant has amended claims 1 and 34 to recite a periodic time value used by a network interface to cause periodic initiation of a direct memory access transfer of statistics metering operation of the network interface. Prior to amendment, the claims had been rejected as obvious over Boucher (U.S. 6,434,620) in view of Waldbusser ("Introduction to the Remote Monitoring (RMON) family of MIB modules). Neither Boucher nor Waldbusser, alone or in combination, describe or suggest the recited periodic time value used by a network interface. For at least the reasons above, Attorney for Applicant requests withdrawal of the rejections of independent claims 1 and 34 and their corresponding dependent claims.

Attorney for Applicant has amended claim 16 to recite repeatedly transferring, by direct memory access, from the network interface to a memory accessed by at least one processor, a set of statistics metering operation of the network interface where the time between transferrings is equal to the time interval value. Neither Boucher nor Waldbusser, alone or in combination, describe or suggest such a timer interval value used by a network interface. For at least the reasons above, Attorney for Applicant requests withdrawal of the rejections of independent claim 16 and its corresponding dependent claims.

Attorney for Applicant has amended claim 26 to recite a network interface that initiates transfer, by direct memory access, to the memory accessed by at least one

processor, of a set of statistics metering operation of the network interface at a time equal to a time value received by the network interface. Neither Boucher nor Waldbusser, alone or in combination, describe or suggest such a time value used by a network interface. For at least the reasons above, Attorney for Applicant requests withdrawal of the rejections of independent claim 26 and its corresponding dependent claims.

In the spirit of compact prosecution, Attorney for Applicant asks for aid from the Examiner in the form of claim amendment suggestions should the claims be capable of being interpreted in a manner other than that obviously intended.

Respectfully submitted,

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